

Chicago Eagle.

"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

VOLUME XXIX.

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1904.—TWELVE PAGES.

NUMBER 752.

YATES' PLUCKY FIGHT.

Governor Gaining Strength and Winning Votes Every Day in His Campaign for Re-election.

Even the Bitterly Hostile Newspapers Are Now Panic-Stricken at His Progress.

Seeing the Folly of Their Methods These Organs Turn on Their Own Henchmen.

And Revile the Men Who Have Been Flinging the Mud that Wouldn't Stick.

Meantime Chief Executive Comes Sweeping on to Cook County in Daily Increasing Strength.

As the final fight for mastership in the State Republican convention goes on, the strength of Governor Richard Yates as a candidate for re-election continues to grow.

One after another he is capturing the counties down through the State, and it now looks as if he will come up to Cook County stronger than all his opponents combined, and needing but a few score of votes here to nominate him on the first ballot. These, all the indications are, the Governor will certainly get, for Mr. Yates has many influential friends among the Republican leaders in Cook County, as will be found out when the right time comes, unless we are much mistaken.

This, in the opinion of the fair-thinking, fair-minded people of the State, is only in accordance with the fitness of things.

Governor Yates has been abused and vilified plainly for the purpose of injuring him politically, and incidentally of gratifying motives of personal spite or revenge.

This campaign of vituperation, however, has not had the effect intended with the people. It has recoiled upon those who have inspired it, as the results of the primaries down through the State clearly indicate.

It has been time and again pointed out in these columns that the vague and indefinite charges made against Governor Yates' administration never had any real basis of fact.

It has been pointed out that if there had been mismanagement of the State institutions, there was a Legislature with a strong minority, backed up by a band of hostile kickers, which formed a strong enough opposition to the administration to have ordered and carried into effect a legislative investigation, yet such a thing was never mentioned. These and other facts which have been dwelt upon have confirmed the people in the belief that the attack upon and criticism of him was sham and hypocrisy, and nothing more.

The people have not been fooled, and if Governor Yates wins out the nomination, as now seems probable, the mud-slinging campaign made against him may be largely thanked for it. Nobody will deny but that the Governor has put up a plucky, manly fight that certainly makes him, in the opinion of the people, deserving of success.

Public approval will be freely accorded to those Aldermen who so ably and fearlessly championed the measure for shorter hours and less arduous duties for the brave, overworked and underpaid members of the Chicago fire department. Alderman Cerveny, who called up the ordinance in the fight for the firemen, deserves great credit for the way in which he handled it.

Here is the report of one day's doings in the gubernatorial campaign as given by our daily contemporaries: "The Clark County convention to-day instructed for Yates for Governor." "In the White County convention to-day resolutions were passed instructing the delegates to the State convention to vote for the renomination of Governor Yates." "The Schuyler County Republican convention instructed for Yates for Governor." "The Republican convention for Crawford County held here to-day instructed for Yates

for Governor." "The Union County Republican Central Committee selected delegates to State convention to-day; instructions were given for Yates for Governor." It is no wonder that the other gubernatorial candidates are in full possession of that tired feeling and that "Larry" Sherman has passed into permanent eclipse.

"We are perfectly helpless," said President Foreman, of the County Board in discussing the mandamus proceedings to compel the board to publish the tax list. Mr. Foreman should not include all of his brother commissioners in the "helpless" category. Whatever may be Mr. Foreman's estimate of himself, the Chicago real estate men engaged in this fight for enforcement of the law are evidently not guided by it.

"Illegality and extravagance in appropriations by the county" are charged by the city in a plea filed yesterday by Assistant Corporation Counsel Barge in a proceeding to recover a \$52,000 water bill. Let us see; doesn't this recall the old controversy between the pot and the kettle?

"All over the world Chicago is known as a seething whirl of noise, dirt and stench." This is the way our esteemed contemporary, the Tribune, puts the Chicago situation. The language may be regarded as a trifle strenuous, but the provocation is undoubtedly great. It is somewhat remarkable, however, the equanimity with which our contemporary accepts the circumstances which are mainly responsible for this deplorable condition.

It seems never to have occurred to the enemies of the old Illinois and Michigan Canal that now that they have succeeded in closing it up the land embracing and adjoining it reverts back to the government, and that hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of property may be taken away from the Commonwealth of Illinois in order that somebody's pet political schemes may be advanced. It is said by able lawyers that every foot of the land granted for canal purposes now becomes government property, and interesting proceedings in the line of pre-emption and eminent domain are probable.

We are credibly informed that the proceedings at the last meeting of the Cook County Hearst Club were more than usually interesting.

The Eagle is informed that nearly one hundred very representative Democrats were in the meeting, which was a secret one by the way, and that some very plain talking was indulged in concerning the management and conduct up to date of the Hearst presidential campaign in this county and State.

Indeed, it is said on reliable authority that the speeches made then and there have fallen with much force and effect in the so-called official Hearst camps.

It must be remembered in order to appreciate the situation that the Cook County Hearst Club is formed under the auspices and operates with the support and backing of the Cook County Democracy.

Its members are all loyal and sincere friends and supporters of William M.

Hearst, but the club is independent of the so-called regular Hearst organizations, either in detail or in the aggregate.

What is more, the Cook County Hearst Club has become convinced of the truth of the statements advanced by The Eagle several weeks ago to the effect that the Hearst movement was being mismanaged, that it had fallen into the hands of its enemies, and that its organization was, in fact, actually controlled by the City Hall and other forces which are fighting Hearst.

"Wolves in sheep's clothing" was the uncompromising characterization by one speaker, of the majority of those now pretending to be handling the interests of Mr. Hearst in Cook County and Illinois. That speaker, The Eagle has been informed, was a no less astute and capable campaigner than Mr. Robert E. Burke himself.

He and other old-time Democrats claimed, and advanced strong arguments and facts in support of their claims, that the so-called Hearst leaders, or a large percentage of them, were not with that statesman at all, and that such as were honestly with him were being bamboozled and befuddled by wiser manipulators in charge of the opposition.

The meeting went a step farther and decided, in pursuance of its proposed plan to put up a real fight for the New York Congressman, to arrange for a campaign at the primaries for a full State and county ticket, with Hearst's name at the head for President. Mr. Burke, Mr. Thomas Gallagher, Mr. Vincent Perkins, Mr. John J. Coburn, and others agreed that this was the only way in which the Hearst movement could be rescued from the condition into which it has been allowed to fall, and the proposition was unanimously adopted. It was decided to apportion the nominations for Cook County offices between the ten congressional districts.

In this way the County Club hopes to infuse renewed ardor into the campaign, and a very interesting set of county primaries on the Democratic side may now be looked forward to.

Meantime the Chicago Democracy is actually at work, and under its leader, E. M. Lahiff, is losing no opportunity to place stumbling blocks in the way of the Hearst movement, the latest being the coupe in connection with the renewal of the charter of the club.

It should always be remembered that the ordinary legitimate saloon business contributes to the city finances \$3,500,000 a year. Crusaders, reformers and others should not overlook this important fact when directing their energies against such abuses as may occasionally arise from this licensed trade.

It would seem that the ordinance for the extension of the Chicago City Railway Company's franchise to January 1 next, to cover the period of the negotiations between the city and the company, is a reasonable one, but the arrangement should be brought to an end at the date mentioned and the negotiations closed. The people do not want and will not stand for any more spring election buncombe in regard to this traction question.

Alderman Woodward's ordinance fixing peddlers' licenses at \$50 per wagon and \$25 for hand carts should be passed. The itinerant traders furnish the last straw upon the backs of the small shopkeepers, already tremendously handicapped by the department stores.



MR. J. V. CLARKE,
The Popular President of the Hibernian Banking Association.

Lawrence A. Young has been made first vice president of the Chicago City Railway Company, succeeding Joseph Leiter, who held the position up to the meeting of the directors Saturday. Mr. Young is also a member of the company's newly created executive committee, which includes, besides him, D. G. Hamilton, the president, and Mr. Leiter. Another change in the official list is that A. W. Goodrich is made second vice president in place of George T. Smith.

It would seem to be apparent that Mr. Young is in training for the presidency of the company, a position once held by his father-in-law, the late Henry Wheeler. Mr. Hamilton is understood to be in the presidency against his own wishes, and because no one else seemed available at the time of the death of President Bowen. Mr. Young will be active with Mr. Hamilton on the executive committee.

The list of the company's officers for the ensuing year, as announced last night, is as follows:

President—D. G. Hamilton.
First Vice President—Lawrence A. Young.
Second Vice President—A. W. Goodrich.
General Manager—Robert McCulloch.

Secretary and Auditor—C. N. Duffy.
Treasurer—T. C. Pennington.
General Solicitor—Mason B. Starling.

Executive Committee—D. G. Hamilton, Joseph Leiter, Lawrence A. Young. The Chicago City Railway Company will start work at once on a \$4,000,000 power house at Thirty-ninth and Halsted streets and will order 100 new cars of modern pattern for service on the Indiana avenue and Cottage Grove lines if the city will grant a permit, revocable at the will of the Council, for overhead trolley in Wabash avenue north of Eighteenth street and around the Madison street loop. Col. E. H. Bliss made the proposition.

"At present," says the colonel, "the Cottage Grove avenue cable, as the city's engineers know, is carrying its limit. We have to bring Indiana avenue electric cars downtown from Eighteenth street on the cable, thus making it impossible to add cars to either line. Indiana avenue cars are blockaded at Eighteenth street every day. Ultimately we will reconstruct the whole system."

Union Traction employees are to be asked to take a hand in improving the system. This co-operative idea originated with Managing Receiver John C. Fetzer, who yesterday sent a letter to General Manager Roach explaining the plan. Its concrete development will be in the form of "question boxes," which will be put in a conspicuous place in each of the car barns.

Employees will be asked to deposit in these boxes letters containing suggestions for service improvements. These suggestions will be acknowledged by letter, and any idea adopted will be followed by a small cash reward.

Chicago firemen should not despair of obtaining their reasonable demands for living hours because the scarcity of this year's appropriation will not permit of carrying into effect the provisions of the ordinance passed with that end in view. Better times in municipal circles must be coming, worse there cannot be, and the fire ladders will have a chance to see their homes and families once a day when the sky clears and the helm of municipal affairs will be in the hands of men who will understand that the best men aboard ship should be fittingly recognized.

The February grand jury, notwithstanding it came in, so to speak, in the shadow of the "special" affair, seems to be composed of men who have a full appreciation of the responsibility of the duties of that office. Alleged lawbreakers whose cases are brought before the present grand jury are treated only with a view to the supremacy of the law and the necessity of maintaining it, irrespective of all other considerations.

Our respected contemporary the Chronicle now admits that the nomination of Governor Yates is unquestioned. Conditions do arise under which the enterprising and imaginative political editor must admit the corn, even nowadays.

Gambling, it seems, is receiving some attention at the hands of the sitting grand jury, and indictments have even been voted against a number of parties indulging in it. Nobody need be surprised—there are grand juries and grand juries.

Somewhere says that the anti-spitting ordinance is unconstitutional. This may be judged from various points of view, but those who claim that the streets are only fit to be spat upon have a strong argument.

SHOULD OBEY THE LAW

Theater Managers Are No Better than Other People and Should Be Taught So.

They Laugh at Laws and Can Buy Many Officials with Their Free Passes.

How Many Chicago Theaters Are Obeying the Ordinance To-day—Are Any of Them?

How Many Chicago Theaters Have Semi-Weekly Fire Drills?—How Many Have Protected Exits?

The Iroquois Disaster Is of Course Forgotten, but a Worse One May Happen.

The majority of theatrical managers are a cheap lot of grafting adventurers. Why such a gang of hungry grabbers should be permitted to trifle with the lives of the people of Chicago is hard to understand.

Possibly it is a matter of cash. The City Council certainly acts in a very peculiar manner when it is asked by theatrical people to "modify" the ordinances.

How many theaters in Chicago are living up to the law? Just look over the ordinance and then over the theaters and see what a difference there is.

Stripped of its verbiage and legal details, the new ordinance, in its twenty-six sections, provides: That all theaters must be equipped with an automatic water sprinkling system over the stage, supplied from a tank not less than twenty feet higher than the building; the sprinklers to be installed over the stage, under the stage, in the paint and property rooms, and other locations back of the curtain. Stand pipes, for hose connection, supplied with water from the tank above the building; pumps, extinguishers, fire hooks and axes, and other fire fighting appliances shall be installed upon the stage, subject to approval of the fire marshal. There shall be a solid brick proscenium wall separating the stage from the auditorium, and all proscenium openings shall be covered by a steel curtain, which shall be in use during the performances as act drops or scene curtains. Iron doors shall be used for all passages from the auditorium to the stage. All stage framing, fly lofts, stage galleries, etc., shall be of iron. All woodwork and scenery must be coated with some fireproof solution. Outer doors leading to the stage must be vestibuled to prevent direct draughts. Adequate vents, to carry off smoke or fire, shall be constructed in the roof above the stage, to be operated by electrical connections which shall lead to the box office and to the stage switchboard. Diagrams of all exits shall be printed in programs. All exits shall have a separate lighting system, showing red lights over the doors, inside, and bright electrical lights to illuminate the exit stair outside. Automatic fire alarm systems shall communicate with the fire department, and the automatic sprinklers, behind the curtain line, shall also communicate automatically with the department. Each theater shall employ two or more firemen, detailed by the department, who shall be on duty during all performances. The firemen shall require a fire drill of the house attaches at least twice a week, and no one fireman shall be detailed at any theater for more than two weeks. Each theater license shall state the exact seating capacity, and no one shall be admitted to the theater after these seats have been sold. All theater lights shall be controlled by a shutoff in the lobby. The building commissioner, fire commissioner and chief of police shall be in absolute control of all theaters, with inspections allowed at any time, and upon their recommendation the mayor shall revoke any license and close any theater. Aisles shall all lead directly to an exit, without any turns or angles. Cross aisles, also leading to exits, shall be opened for every fifteen banks of seats on the ground floor, and between every nine banks of seats in balcony or gallery. There shall be no rise greater than eighteen inches between rows of seats, and each row of seats shall have a space of two feet ten inches from back to back. There shall be no more than ten seats in each row between aisles. No aisle shall be less than two feet eight inches wide at the stage end and three feet at the other, and there shall be no steps, sudden rises or other obstructions in any aisle. All doors must swing outward, all stairways must be always lighted during performances, and the floors shall be designated as "Main Floor," "First Gallery" and "Second Gallery." All exit stairs shall lead directly to open spaces or inclosed passageways, protected by fireproof walls six inches thick. Existing buildings may have these fireproof passageways constructed within the walls of the audience rooms, but in future construction of theaters all audience rooms must adjoin at least two public thoroughfares, shall be surrounded on four sides by open passages or inclosed fireproof passageways leading direct to the streets. No audience room now existing shall have its lowest bank of seats more than twelve feet above the street level, unless the building shall be fireproof, and in all future construction the lower floor shall be on the street level. Furthermore, all theaters to be constructed in future shall be absolutely fireproof in every particular of its construction.

Charles R. Crane, of Chicago, has given 1,000,000 kopecks, or \$10,000, to the Russian government to help it in the war with Japan. This Crane is a good sample of our "public spirited" citizens. He willingly gives \$10,000 towards helping healing and consoling the liberty destroying Russians, but forgets that there are thousands of his Chicago fellow citizens whom a little charity would help during this hard winter.

The public is heartily in favor of the movement started by the Ravenswood Women's Club for a sane Fourth or July. The crusade is against the fatal fire cracker, the street car track torpedo and the other inventions of evil ingenuity for making the national holiday a day of horror.

Already enterprising speculators are fixing up the Yates slate in anticipation of the Governor's eventual victory in the gubernatorial race. The names following that of Governor Yates are those of men well known to have been loyal and faithful followers and supporters of his in all conditions and stress of political weather, and will not include a single name of those who under the battle flag of "reformation" sought to force their way over Yates' head to the public crib of the State of Illinois. The list seems to be a reasonable one.

Thirty-two millions of dollars is the total sum of Chicago's annual budget. It is a large sum for such small results.

Formal announcement of the elections of this year and the offices to be voted for in Cook County has been issued by the Board of Election Commissioners. On April 5 will be chosen thirty-five Aldermen, one for each